

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

My wife is disabled and I depend on my ability to make copies of tv shows, movies from HBO, etc. for her to watch. If this flag is make law my ability to take care of her will be in the hands of the broadcasters, movie studios, etc. I pay for the privledge of getting this data and do not want my private use of it infringed.

If the broadcast flag was not going to be used to limit consumer use of video data there would be no purpose to it. A few major companies want to limit my legal use of data I, and all Americans, pay for so that they can make more money.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? Again, i say that if the digital flag was not going to interfere with consumers' ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks it would not be being proposed.

This is a case of a few large companies trying to get a law passed that would benifit them to the detriment of everyone else. It would limit our freedom to use what we have payed for in the way we want.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

Of course it would. To say that would not is silly. The producers want to sell new equipment and want the goverment to require it.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

Any legal requirment puts restrictions on new technologies. That is the point of the requirment. The industrys involved want the goverment to limit technology so they can make more money. If they don't have to develop technology to do what they want, but can convince the goverment to pass laws limiting new technologies they can save development costs and make more money.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

I have no idea, but i'm sure it will cost something to put it in all new equipment. The major expense will be that all consumers will end up having to buy new equipment that they don't need or want... and this new equipment will limit our abilty to use data as we see fit for our personal use.

Other Comments:

This is all about a few companies trying to keep technology from advancing so that they can continue to make money in the way they are accustomed. It is a bad idea that limits technological development and helps a few special interests at the expense of society as a whole.